8. The method of claim 1, wherein detecting the first occurrence of the predetermined shape comprises detecting a predetermined relative slope of the touch signal.

9. The method of claim 8, wherein detecting the predetermined relative slope comprises dividing a slope of the touch signal at a particular time by a magnitude of the touch signal at the particular time.

10. The method of claim 8, wherein detecting the first occurrence of the predetermined shape comprises detecting the first occurrence of the relative slope falling below a predetermined value.

11. The method of claim 8, wherein detecting the first occurrence of the predetermined shape comprises detecting the first occurrence that the relative slope changes sign.

12. The method of claim 8, wherein detecting the first occurrence of the predetermined shape comprises detecting the first occurrence of a touch signal point halfway through an interval of the touch signal for which the relative slope is less than a predetermined value.

13. The method of claim 8, wherein detecting the first occurrence of the predetermined shape comprises detecting the first occurrence of a touch signal point following a predetermined delay interval after the relative slope falls below a predetermined value.

14. The method of claim 1, wherein using a fixed threshold to determine that the touch signal represents a valid touch input further comprises determining that the touch signal exceeds a predetermined magnitude before detecting the first occurrence of a predetermined shape in the touch signal.

15. The method of claim 1, wherein using a fixed threshold to determine that the touch signal represents a valid touch input further comprises examining the touch signal to detect a rise of the touch signal above a predetermined magnitude after detecting the first occurrence of the predetermined shape in the touch signal.

16. The method of claim 3, further comprising obtaining touch location information if the preferred time is not detected after a predetermined interval and if the touch is deliberately slow.

17. The method of claim 3, further comprising masking a touch signal output until a current touch condition is removed if the preferred time is not detected after a predetermined interval and if the touch is not deliberately slow.

18. The method of claim 17, wherein the current touch condition is removed when the touch signal magnitude falls below a predetermined magnitude.

19. The method of claim 3, further comprising determining a series of touch locations after the preferred time is detected if the touch is a continuing touch.

20. The method of claim 19, wherein the further step of determining a series of touch locations after the preferred time is detected if the touch is a continuing touch comprises masking a touch location output when the relative slope falls below a predetermined range around zero.

21. The method of claim 19, further comprising reporting as a touch location output a first touch location in the series of touch locations until a predetermined time interval has elapsed.

22. The method of claim 19, further comprising reporting as a touch location output a first touch location in the series of touch locations until the touch location is calculated to be a predetermined distance from the first touch location.

23. A method for determining a touch location on a touch screen, comprising:

associating a touch signal shape with a level of touch signal error;

acquiring a touch signal corresponding to a touch on the touch screen;

detecting the first occurrence of the touch signal shape in the touch signal; and

determining touch location using touch signal information obtained in response to detecting the touch signal shape.

24. The method of claim 23, wherein acquiring the touch signal corresponding to the touch on the touch screen further comprises acquiring a signal indicative of a touch force.

25. The method of claim 23, wherein detecting the first occurrence of the touch signal shape further comprises detecting a predetermined slope of the touch signal.

26. The method of claim 23, wherein detecting the first occurrence of a touch signal shape comprises detecting a predetermined relative slope of the touch signal.

27. The method of claim 23, wherein associating the touch signal shape with the level of touch signal error comprises associating the touch signal shape with a reduced level of touch signal error in comparison to a maximum touch signal error.

28. The method of claim 23, wherein associating the touch signal shape with the level of touch signal error comprises detecting a time when damping effect errors in the touch signal are minimal.

29. The method of claim 23, wherein associating the touch signal shape with the level of touch signal error comprises detecting a time when inertial effect errors in the touch signal are minimal.

30. The method of claim 22, wherein detecting the first occurrence of the touch signal shape comprises detecting a preferred time for obtaining touch signal information to determine touch location.

31. A method for determining a touch location on a touch screen, comprising:

associating a touch signal shape with a local minimum in touch-induced error;

acquiring a touch signal arising from a touch;

determining a particular time at which the touch signal shape is present in the touch signal; and

determining touch location using touch signal information obtained at the particular time.

32. The method of claim 31, wherein the acquiring a touch signal arising from a touch comprises acquiring a signal indicative of a touch force.

33. The method of claim 31, wherein determining the particular time at which the touch signal shape is present in the touch signal comprises determining a preferred time for obtaining touch signal information to determine touch location.

34. The method of claim 31, wherein associating the touch signal shape with the local minimum in touch-induced error present in the touch signal comprises associating the touch signal shape to a time during the touch signal that damping effect errors are minimal.